# REPORT OF EXAMINATION OF THE

# CAMICO MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003

Participating State and Zone:

California, Zone IV - Western

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San Francisco, California February 4, 2005

Honorable Alfred W. Gross Chairman, NAIC Financial Condition (EX4) Subcommittee Commissioner of Insurance Virginia Bureau of Insurance Richmond, Virginia

Honorable John Morrison Secretary, Zone IV – Western Commissioner of Insurance and Securities Montana Department of Insurance Helena, Montana

Honorable John Garamendi Insurance Commissioner California Department of Insurance Sacramento, California

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

Pursuant to your instructions, an examination was made of the

#### CAMICO MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

(hereinafter also referred to as the Company) at its home office, 1235 Radio Road, Redwood City, California 94065.

## SCOPE OF EXAMINATION

The previous examination of the Company was made as of December 31, 2000. This examination covers the period from January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2003. The examination included a review of the Company's practices and procedures, an examination of management records, tests and analyses of detailed transactions within the examination period, and an evaluation of the assets and a determination of liabilities as of December 31, 2003, as deemed necessary under the circumstances.

The examination was made pursuant to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' plan of examination.

In addition to those items specifically commented upon in this report, other phases of the Company's operations were reviewed including the following areas that require no further comment in this report: corporate records; fidelity bonds and other insurance; officers, employees and agents welfare and pension plans; growth of company; business in force by states; and sales and advertising.

## **SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

In early 2004, the Company obtained a \$5 million revolving line of credit from Wells Fargo Bank (WFB). To secure the line of credit, the Company pledged \$5.6 million (par value) in Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation securities to WFB. These securities are currently held in a separate custodian account with the BNY Western Trust Company. Company management indicated that the line of credit was obtained to allow the Company flexibility in investing operating cash that previously was invested in low yielding money market accounts.

During the latter part of 2004, subsequent to the date of this examination, the Company submitted an application to the California Department of Insurance (CDI) for approval of a \$10 million surplus note that will be issued by the Company to FTN Financial Capital Markets, a division of the First Tennessee Bank National Association. Company management indicated that funds from the note would be used to support premium growth, strengthen the Company's balance sheet, and allow the Company to modify its reinsurance program, including the acceptance of a higher reinsurance retention level in its first reinsurance layer. As of the date of this report, the application is under review by the CDI.

#### **COMPANY HISTORY**

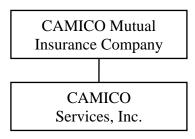
The Company was incorporated under the laws of California on March 4, 1986, as Cal Accountants Mutual Insurance Company, and commenced operations on June 30, 1986. The Company adopted its present name of CAMICO Mutual Insurance Company on September 29, 1995.

The Company was initially capitalized through the issuance of certificates of contribution to all new policyholders. This practice was discontinued in July 1991. After accumulating sufficient unassigned surplus, the Company starting in 1994 began to redeem the certificates of contribution and pay-off the accumulated interest on the certificates. All outstanding certificates were redeemed and retired by year-end 1998.

In December 1999, the Company entered into an agreement with Design Professional Insurance Company, Security Insurance Company of Hartford, and the Connecticut Indemnity Company (DPIC Companies) to manage and assume a book of accountant's professional liability that was previously underwritten by the DPIC Companies. This agreement enabled the Company to expand its insurance program nationwide.

#### MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

The Company is a member of an insurance holding company system, which includes a wholly-owned subsidiary, CAMICO Services, Inc. (CSI). CSI is a licensed agent and operates primarily as an agent intermediary offering certain insurance coverages underwritten by other insurance carriers to the Company's policyholders. The following organizational chart depicts the relationship of the companies within the holding company system:



The board of directors is vested with the authority to manage the Company. A listing of the members of the board and principal officers serving as of December 31, 2003 follows:

## **Board of Directors**

Name and Residence Principal Business Affiliation

Kenneth J. Ashcraft Retired CPA

Brentwood, California

Louis J. Barbich Managing General Partner

Bakersfield, California\* Barbich, Longcrier, Hooper & King

Robert E. Carne CPA and Partner

San Diego, California\* McKay, Carne, Buniva & Lazarus, LLP

Robert C. Daney CPA and Partner

San Jose, California\* Brach, Neal, Daney & Spence, LLP

John A. Dodsworth

Los Altos, California

President and Chief Executive Officer
CAMICO Mutual Insurance Company

Robert P. Evans CPA and Partner

Fort Worth, Texas\* Sproles, Woodard, LLP

Victor I. McCarty Retired CPA

Long Beach, California

John W. Meara CPA and Partner

Kansas City, Missouri\* Meara, King & Co., a Professional Corporation

Robert G. Nuber CPA and Chairman

Bellevue, Washington\* Clark Nuber, Professional Services

Diana P. Sanderson\*\*

CPA and Owner

Walnut Creek, California\* Diana P. Sanderson & Associates

Stuart M. Weinstein CPA and Partner

San Francisco, California\* RINA Accountancy Corporation

<sup>\*</sup> denotes business address

<sup>\*\*</sup> name changed to Diana P. Sanderson-Mori in 2004 due to marriage

## Principal Officers

<u>Name</u> <u>Title</u>

John A. Dodsworth President and Chief Executive Officer

Stuart E. Olson Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial

Officer

Ronald B. Klein Vice President and Secretary

Sandra A. Maker Vice President Ricardo R. Rosario Vice President Gail A. Dennis Vice President

## **Inter-Company Agreements**

Cost Allocation and Reimbursement Agreement: The Company has a Cost Allocation and Reimbursement Agreement with its subsidiary, CAMICO Services Inc. (CSI), whereby the Company performs certain functions and provides certain services to CSI. The services include, but are not limited to, general corporate management, investment advice, strategic planning, product development, computer services, advertising, and marketing. Under the terms of the agreement, the Company is reimbursed on a cost allocation-reimbursement basis.

Tax Allocation Agreement: The Company is a party to a tax allocation agreement with its subsidiary, CSI. The agreement provides for the federal tax returns of the parties to be filed on a consolidated basis. Allocation is based on separate company return calculations with fair compensation to the parties for use of net operating losses, alternative minimum tax, or tax credits that are used to reduce the consolidated federal income tax liability of the group.

#### TERRITORY AND PLAN OF OPERATION

The Company provides professional liability insurance on a claims-made basis to certified public accounting firms. It specializes in providing coverage for small to medium-sized certified public accounting practices with limited or no Securities and Exchange Commission engagements, initial public offerings or large company audit work. The Company also provides extended reporting endorsement (ERE) coverage for policyholders who die, become disabled or retire. The Company

provides the ERE coverage at no cost to all sole proprietors with a minimum of five years of continuous coverage with the Company.

As of December 31, 2003, the Company was licensed to transact insurance in the District of Columbia and all states except Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wyoming. In 2003, the Company wrote \$45,226,873 in direct premiums (\$29,540,701 on a net basis) with business written by the five highest producing states as follow: California - \$24.6 million (54.4%), New York - \$1.8 million (3.9%), Maryland - \$1.5 million (3.3%), Pennsylvania - \$1.4 million (3.0%), and Georgia - \$1.4 million (3.0%).

Approximately 63% of the direct written business in 2003 was produced directly by the Company's in-house marketing staff. The remainder of the business was produced by 55 independent agents.

### REINSURANCE

#### **Assumed**

During the period of this examination, the Company assumed a fronted book of business that was written in states in which it was not yet licensed. This book of business was written directly by Fairfield Insurance Company, reinsured by General Reinsurance Corporation, which then retroceded the book to the Company. This fronting arrangement was terminated on December 31, 2003 as the Company became licensed in the states where the fronted business was written. Currently all business is written directly.

## Ceded

During the period of this examination, the Company's per occurrence retention has been \$750,000. The following exhibit summarizes the major reinsurance agreements in force at December 31, 2003:

Type of Contract	Reinsurer's Name	Company's Retention	Reinsurer's Maximum Limits
Casualty Excess of Loss	Folksamerica Reinsurance Company (20%) Hannover Ruckversicherungs- Aktiengesellschaft (20%) Partner Reinsurance Company of U.S. (20%) Aspen Insurance UK Ltd. (16.25%) Lloyd's Underwriters (23.75%)	\$750,000 per claim per policy; and 10% loss in excess of policy limit & extra contractual obligations	\$2,250,000 per claim per policy, subject to a limit of 300% of net ceded premium during the term of contract
Automatic Facultative Casualty Excess of Loss	Aspen Insurance UK Ltd. (28.58%) Lloyd's Underwriters (71.42%)	\$3 million per claim per policy; and 10% loss in excess of policy limit & extra contractual obligations	\$2 million per claim per policy
Certificates of Casualty Facultative Reinsurance	General Reinsurance Corporation (100%)	\$5 million per claim; \$10 million policy aggregate	\$5 million per claim; \$10 million policy aggregate
Casualty Contingency Excess of Loss (1st & 2nd Event)	Aspen Insurance UK Ltd. (18.18%) Lloyd's Underwriters (81.82%)  (Coverage as respects loss in excess of policy limit & extra contractual obligations applies to all policies)	The greater of \$3 million per claim per policy; or the policy limit, and 10% loss in excess of policy limit & extra contractual obligations	\$4 million per claim per policy \$4 million per occurrence \$8 million all occurrences during term of the agreement, including one reinstatement
Casualty Contingency 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Event Coverage Excess of Loss	Lloyd's Underwriters 50% Self Insured *50%  (Coverage as respects loss in excess of policy limit & extra contractual obligations applies to all policies)	The greater of \$3 million per claim per policy; or the policy limit, and 10% loss in excess of policy limit & extra contractual obligations  *(This contract has only 50% reinsurers' participation. The remaining 50% was not placed with any reinsurer)	\$4 million per claim per policy \$4 million per occurrence \$8 million all occurrences during term of the agreement, including one reinstatement  (This coverage shall not apply until the 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> occurrences aggregate loss of \$8 million has been exhausted)

Type of Contract	Reinsurer's Name	Company's Retention	Reinsurer's Maximum Limits
Casualty Clash & Stop Loss	General Reinsurance Corporation (100%)	Part A: Retention equal to 74% of Net Subject Premium Earned (net of all reinsurance premiums)  Part B: \$750,000 ultimate net loss per occurrence involving more than one policy	\$3 million (Parts A & B combined) in the aggregate as respects occurrences and claims made, during the term of the agreement

All of the Company's reinsurers were authorized carriers.

## **ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS**

In reviewing matters (reported potential claim incidences) that were converted to claims during the first part of 2004 to test the completeness of the Company's 2003 unpaid claims inventory, it was noted from the sample taken that there were five instances in which matters were not converted to claims on a timely basis. Based on the claim adjuster's notes and evidence in the claim file, there was clear liability and the five matters should have been converted to claims prior to year-end 2003. This situation could result in the skewing of actuarial factors used in the projection of losses, which in turn could affect the accuracy of the actuarial projections of the Company's ultimate losses. It is recommended that the Company review its claims procedures to ensure that claims are opened on a timely basis and that reported losses are recognized in the proper reporting period.

# **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements prepared for this examination report include:

Statement of Financial Condition as of December 31, 2003

Underwriting and Investment Exhibit for the Year Ended December 31, 2003

Reconciliation of Surplus as Regards Policyholders from December 31, 2000 through December 31, 2003

# Statement of Financial Condition as of December 31, 2003

<u>Assets</u>	Ledger and Non-ledger <u>Assets</u>	Nonadmitted Assets	Net Admitted Assets	<u>Notes</u>
Bonds	\$ 81,499,533	\$	\$ 81,499,533	
Common stocks	6,758,242	Ψ	6,758,242	
Cash and short-term investments	3,643,828		3,643,828	
Investment income due and accrued	1,201,068		1,201,068	
Uncollected premiums, agents' balances	1,201,000		1,201,000	
in course of collection	3,207,552	275,246	2,932,306	
Amounts recoverable from reinsurers	370,236	213,240	370,236	
Net deferred tax asset	3,108,778	938,487	2,170,291	
Electronic data processing equipment	3,100,770	750,407	2,170,271	
and software	438,650	261,553	177,097	
Furniture and equipment	268,678	268,678	177,077	
Receivable form parent, subsidiaries and	200,070	200,070		
affiliates	2,881		2,881	
Other assets nonadmitted	239,606	239,606	2,001	
Aggregate write-ins for other than	239,000	239,000		
invested assets	996,018	769,7201	226,298	
Total assets	<u>\$101,735,070</u>	\$ 2,753,291	<u>\$ 98,981,780</u>	
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds				
Losses			\$ 25,709,256	(1)
Loss adjustment expenses			16,311,761	(1)
Commissions payable, contingent commissions				. ,
and similar charges			430,060	
Other expenses			4,423,581	
Taxes, licenses and fees			404,138	
Federal income taxes			621,755	
Unearned premiums			9,090,144	(2)
Advance premiums			5,540,101	
Ceded reinsurance premiums payable			3,637,440	
Amounts withheld by company for account of others			99,388	
Remittances and items not allocated			21,129	
Payable for securities			561,125	
Aggregate write-ins for liabilities			180,896	
Total liabilities			67,030,774	
Unassigned funds (surplus)		\$ 31,951,006		
Surplus as regards policyholders			31,951,006	
Total liabilities, surplus and other funds			<u>\$ 98,981,780</u>	

# <u>Underwriting and Investment Exhibit</u> for the Year Ended December 31, 2003

# Statement of Income

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Premiums earned		\$ 27,303,443		
Deductions: Losses incurred Loss expenses incurred Other underwriting expenses incurred Aggregate write-ins for underwriting deductions	\$13,076,669 6,458,256 10,513,318 10,004			
Total underwriting deductions		30,058,247		
Net underwriting loss		(2,754,804)		
Investment Income				
Net investment income earned Net realized capital gains	\$ 3,754,304 430,022			
Net investment gains		4,184,326		
Net income before federal income taxes Federal income taxes incurred		1,429,522 250,684		
Net income		<u>\$ 1,178,838</u>		
Surplus Account				
Surplus as regards policyholders, December 31, 2002		\$ 29,211,716		
Net income Change in net unrealized capital gains Change in net deferred income tax Change in nonadmitted assets Change in provision for reinsurance Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles	\$ 1,178,838 1,024,548 75,771 (174,189) 156,600 477,722			
Change in surplus as regards policyholders		2,739,290		
Surplus as regards policyholders, December 31, 2003		\$ 31,951,006		

# Reconciliation of Surplus as Regards Policyholders from December 31, 2000 through December 31, 2003

Surplus regards as policyholders, December 31, 2000 per Examination			\$ 26,073,541
	Gain in Surplus	Loss in Surplus	
Net income	\$ 2,393,260	\$	
Change in net unrealized capital gains	159,553		
Change in net deferred income tax	750,857		
Change in nonadmitted assets		52,267	
Change in provision for reinsurance	6,804		
Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles	2,393,645		
Aggregate write-ins for gains in surplus	225,613		
Total gains and losses in surplus	\$ 5,929,732	\$ 52,267	
Increase in surplus			5,877,465
Surplus as regards policyholders, December 31, 2003			

\$ 31,951,006

per Examination

#### COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL STATEMENT ITEMS

# (1) Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses

The California Department of Insurance (CDI), pursuant to California Insurance Code (CIC) Section 733(g), retained a consulting actuary for the purpose of providing a full actuarial evaluation of the Company's loss and loss adjustment expense reserves as of December 31, 2003. The results of the evaluation indicated that the Company's loss and loss adjustment expense reserves were reasonably stated.

## (2) <u>Unearned Premiums</u>

The CDI retained a consulting actuary to determine the reasonableness of the Company's extended reporting endorsement (ERE) policy reserve that is included in the Company's unearned premiums reserve. Based on the examination of the supporting data and assumptions, the CDI consulting actuary concluded that the Company's carried reserve of \$2,191,000 at December 31, 2003 was deficient by \$612,000. No adjustments were made to the Company's financial statements to reflect the deficiency, as it was not considered material to its balance sheet.

The primary reasons for the deficiency were: 1) the Company's consulting actuary did not factor in adjusting and other (unallocated) expenses into his calculations of the ERE policy reserve; 2) the discount rate used by the Company's consulting actuary is higher than the risk-free rate, which is the maximum discount rate allowed by the CDI in the calculation of the ERE policy reserve; and 3) the model used for calculating the ERE policy reserve is over five years old and needs to be updated and modified. It is recommended that the Company direct its consulting actuary to factor adjusting and other (unallocated) expenses into the calculation of ERE policy reserve. The Company should also direct its consulting actuary to use a discount rate no higher than the risk-free rate, as determined by the yield to maturity on a United States treasury debt instrument with maturity consistent with the average period of time between premium collection and loss payment under the ERE coverage. It is also recommended that the Company commission a new study to update its ERE policy reserving model to a current basis.

Also during the review of the Company's ERE policy reserve, it was noted that the Company was not consistently capturing the age of its policyholders. The age for sole proprietors is a factor in the calculation of the Company's ERE policy reserve. It is recommended that the Company capture the age of its current policyholders and that the Company modify its policy application to provide for the capturing of the applicant's birth date.

#### SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Current Report of Examination**

Accounts and Records (Page 8): It is recommended that the Company review its claim's procedures to ensure that claims are opened on a timely basis and that reported losses are recognized in the proper reporting period.

Comments on Financial Statement Items – Unearned Premiums (Page 13): It is recommended that the Company direct its consulting actuary to factor adjusting and other (unallocated) expenses into the calculation of the Company's extended reporting endorsement policy reserve.

Comments on Financial Statement Items – Unearned Premiums (Page 13): It is recommended that the Company direct its consulting actuary to use a discount rate no higher than the risk-free rate, as determined by the yield to maturity on a United States treasury debt instrument with maturity consistent with the average period of time between premium collection and loss payment under the ERE coverage.

Comments on Financial Statement Items – Unearned Premiums (Page 13): It is recommended that the Company commission a new study to update its extended reporting endorsement policy reserving model to a current basis.

Comments on Financial Statement Items – Unearned Premiums (Page 13): It is recommended that the Company capture the age of its current policyholders and that the Company modify its policy applications to provide for the capturing of the applicant's birth date.

Previous Report of Examination

Reinsurance – Ceded (Page 5): All of the Company's reinsurance agreements had insolvency

clauses that did not fully comply with California Insurance Code (CIC) Section 922.2.

Additionally, the offset clause in the Company's Casualty Aggregate Stop Loss was also not in

compliance with CIC Section 1031 in that the accounts to be offset are not mutual debits and credits.

The Company's reinsurance agreements are currently in compliance with the above CIC sections.

<u>ACKNOWLEDGMENT</u>

Acknowledgment is made of the cooperation and assistance extended by the Company's officers and

employees during the course of this examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard S. Wong, CFE Examiner-In-Charge Department of Insurance State of California

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